

# SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATIC PRIVATE IP ADDRESS SELECTION

By J. Randall Tuner

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/226,226, filed on August 18, 2000, entitled "System and Method for Automatic Private IP Address Selection," which is incorporated herein by reference.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

### Field of the Invention

[0002] The present system and method relates generally to communications systems, and more particularly to automatic private Internet Protocol (IP) address selection and assignment in a network.

### Description of Related Art

[0003] Presently, the Internet is a network of virtually connected network-enabled devices using Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and Internet Protocol (IP). TCP/IP is a combination of these two means to deliver data from a host to a client that involves converting large data blocks into a plurality of small data packets for transmission across transmission devices. These data packets typically travel through an Internet Service Provider (ISP) before being forwarded to an end user.

[0004] An address of a computer or similar networking device attached to a TCP/IP network is called an Internet Protocol address ("IP address"). The IP address is

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